

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8439

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: OVIP (SIMON, WILLIAM E.)

SUBJECT: SECRETARY SIMON TRAVEL--ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

USDOC FOR BEWT/DOWNEY

TREASURY FOR SHAPIRO

REF: STATE 062420

1. COMMATT AND ADMINOFF MET WITH MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE PROTOCOL OFFICERS (PONOMAREV AND SOBELEVSKIY) MARCH 20 TO PASS ON INFORMATION REFTEL REGARDING ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR SIMON VISIT.

2. ALTHOUGH FINAL DECISION ON HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS APPARENTLY NOT YET TAKEN. PONOMAREV INDICATED THAT ENTIRE DELEGATION WOULD IN ALL LIKELIHOOD BE ACCOMMODATED AT HOTEL SOVIETSKAYA. ON THIS BASIS, COMMATT ASKED THAT CONTROL ROOMS PREVIOUSLY PROVIDED FOR US DELEGATIONS STAYING IN SOVIETSKAYA (I.E., THREE-ROOM SUITE ON SECOND FLOOR) BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR SIMON DELEGATION. PONOMAREV INDICATED THAT WOULD BE DONE.

3. REGARDING TRANSPORTATION, PONOMAREV SAID THAT MINISTRY WOULD PROVIDE ONE CHAIKA FOR SECRETARY AND MRS. SIMON, TEN VOLGAS FOR MEMBERS OF DELEGATION, AND BFOR AIRCRAFT CREW. HE INDICATED

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TRANSPORTATION FOR ANY SECRET SERVICE REPS ARRIVING MOSCOW PRIOR

TO MAIN DELEGATION WOULD BE RESPONSIBILITY OF EMBASSY. ADMINOFF AGREED AND NOTED THAT TRANSPORTATION FOR SECRET SERVICE DURING STAY OF DELEGATION HAD IN PAST BEEN ARRANGED THROUGH SOVIET SECURITY.

4. AS REGARDS DELEGATION'S STAY IN YALTA AND TBILISI, COMMATT NOTED THAT EMBASSY'S ABILITIES TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS IN BOTH TOWNS WERE EXTREMELY LIMITED AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT WE COULD DEPEND UPON MINISTRY TO MAKE ALL NECESSARY ARRANGMENTS. PONOMAREV CONFIRMED THAT THIS WAS THE CASE. EMBASSY ASSUMES THAT SOME MEMBERS OF SECRET SERVICE TEAM WILL PLAN TO PRECEDE DELEGATION TO YALTA AND TBILISI. PLEASE CONFIRM.

5. AMBASSADOR IS PLANNING HOST RECEPTION FOR DELEGATION AT 1300 HOURS APRIL 11. WE HAVE ASKED FOREIGN TRADE MINISTRY TO PROVIDE LIST OF 30 SOVIET INVITEES, INCLUDING WIVES. COINCIDENTALLY WITH COMMERCIAL COMMISSION MEETING, WE ANTICIPATE THAT SUBSTANTIAL GROUP OF PROMINENT U.S. BANKERS WILL BE IN TOWN IN CONNECTION WITH 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF BANK OF FOREIGN TRADE. WE ARE ATTEMPTING DETERMINE FROM BANK OF FOREIGN TRADE HOW MANY U.S. BANKERS WILL BE INVOLVED AND, IF NUMBER IS NOT TOO GREAT, AMBASSADOR WOULD PROPOSE TO INCLUDE THIS GROUP IN APRIL 11 RECEPTION.

6. WAIVER OF VISAS REQUESTED PARA 3 REFTTEL IS NOT RPT NOT PRACTICAL IN CASE OF SOVIET UNION AND EMBASSY BELIEVES ALL MEMBERS OF DELEGATION SHOULD OBTAIN SOVIET VISAS IN WASHINGTON. SOVIET EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON HAS IN THE PAST BEEN QUITE COOPERATIVE IN EXPEDITING ISSUANCE OF VISAS FOR DELEGATIONS OF THIS TYPE. MOREOVER, WE ARE NOT IN POSITION TO WAIVE VISA REQUIREMENT FOR EQUIVALENT SOVIET DELEGATION.

7. FOREIGN TRADE MINISTRY HAS AGREED TO ADVISE EMBASSY OF ANY PLANS BY SOVIET SIDE TO EXCHANGE GIFTS WITH US DELEGATION.

8. PROVIDED SECRETARY SIMON CONCURS, AMBASSADOR AND MRS. STOESSEL WILL PLAN JOIN SECRETARY AND PARTY FOR VISIT TO YALTA, RETURNING TO MOSCOW WHEN SECRETARY DEPARTS YALTA FOR TBILISI.

9. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE INDICATION SECRETARY'S WISHES REGARDING ESCORT OFFICER. IF DESIRED, EMBOFF AND ONE AMERICAN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SECRETARY COULD ACCOMPANY SECRETARY'S PARTY TO YALTA AND TBILISI.
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